[XXXVth Year.] THE (No. 1747.)

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, July 7, 1780.

PHILADELPHIA, July 1.

Extract of a letter from general Washington, dated Weſtpoint, June 25, 1780.

"THE conduct of the enemy, giving us reaſon to ſuſpect a deſign against Weſt-Point, on the 23d the army, except two brigades and the horſe, (left under the command of gen. Greene to cover the country and our ſtores) was put in motion to proceed ſlowly towards Pompton. On the 24th it arrived at Rockaway bridge, about 12 miles from Morris-town. The day following, the enemy moved in force from Elizabeth-town towards Springfield. They were oppoſed with great conduct and ſpirit, by major-general Greene and Dickinſon with the continental troops and ſuch of the militia as were aſſembled; but with their ſuperiority in numbers, they of courſe gained Springfield. Having burnt the village, they retired the ſame day to their former poſition. In the night they abandoned it, croſſed over to Staten-Iſland, and took up their bridge. I beg leave to refer congreſs to general Greene's report for particulars.

"The enemy have not made their incurſions into this ſtate, without loſs. Ours has been ſmall. The militia deſerves every thing that can be ſaid on both occaſions. They flew to arms univerſally, and acted with a ſpirit equal to any thing I have ſeen in the courſe of the war."

The enclosed REPORT from major-general GREENE is as follows:

Springfield, June 24, 1780.

SIR,

I have been too buſily employed, until the preſent moment, to lay before your excellency the tranſactions of yeſterday.

The enemy advanced from Elizabeth-town about five in the morning, ſaid to be about five thouſand infantry, with a large body of cavalry and fifteen or twenty pieces of artillery. Their march was rapid and compact. They moved in two columns, one on the main road leading to Springfield, the other on the Vauxhall road. Major Lee with the horſe and pickets oppoſed the right column, and colonel Dayton with his regiment the left, and both gave as much oppoſition as could have been expected from ſo ſmall a force. Our troops were ſo extended, to guard the different roads leading to the ſeveral paſſes over the mountain, that I had ſcarcely time to collect them at Springfield, and make the neceſſary diſpoſitions before the enemy appeared before the town; when a cannonade commenced between their advance and our artillery, poſted for the defence of the bridge. The enemy continued manœuvering in our front for upwards of two hours, which induced me to believe they were attempting to gain our flanks. My force was ſmall, and from the direction of the roads, my ſituation was critical. I diſpoſed of the troops in the beſt manner I could, to guard our flanks, ſecure a retreat, and oppoſe the advance of their columns. Colonel Angell with his regiment, and ſeveral ſmall detachments, and one piece of artillery, was poſted to ſecure the bridge in front of the town.—Colonel Shrieve's regiment was drawn up at the ſecond bridge, to cover the retreat of thoſe poſted at the firſt, major Lee with his dragoons and the pickets, commanded by captain Walker, was poſted at Little's bridge, on the Vauxhall-road, and colonel Ogden was detached to ſupport him. The remainder of general Maxwell's and Stark's brigades were drawn up on the high grounds at the mill. The militia were on the flanks. Thoſe under the command of general Dickinſon, made a ſpirited attack upon one of the enemy's flanking parties, but his force was too ſmall to puſh the advantage he had gained.

While the enemy were making demonſtrations to their left, their right column advanced on major Lee. The bridge was diſputed with great obſtinacy, and the enemy muſt have received very conſiderable injury, but by forcing the river, and gaining the point of the hill, they obliged the major with his party, to give up the poſt. At this inſtant of time, their left column began the attack on colonel Angel; the action was ſevere and laſted about forty minutes, when ſuperior numbers overcame obſtinate bravery, and forced our troops to retire over the ſecond bridge, where the enemy were warmly received by colonel Shrieve's regiment, but as they advanced in great force, with a large train of artillery, he had orders to join the brigade.

As the enemy continued to preſs our left on the Vauxhall road, which led directly into our rear, and would have given them the moſt important paſs; and finding our front too extenſive to be effectually ſecured by ſo ſmall a body of troops, I thought it moſt adviſeable to take poſt upon the firſt range of hills in the rear of Bryant's tavern, where the roads are brought ſo near to a point, that ſuccour might readily be given from one to the other. This enabled me to detach colonel Webb's regiment, commanded by lieutenant-colonel Huntington, and colonel Jackſons regiment with one piece of artillery, which entirely checked the advance of the enemy on our left, and ſecured that paſs.

Being thus advantageouſly poſted, I was in hopes the enemy would have attempted to gain the heights, but diſcovering no diſpoſition in them for attacking us, and ſeeing them begin to fire the houſes in town, detachments were ordered out on every quarter, to prevent their burning buildings not immediately under the command of their cannon and muſketry. In a few minutes they had ſet fire to almoſt every houſe in town, and began their retreat. Captain Davis with a detachment of 120 men, ſeveral ſmaller parties, with a large body of militia, fell upon their rear and flanks, and kept up a continual fire upon them, till they entered Elizabeth-town, which place they reached about ſun ſet. Stark's brigade was immediately put in motion, on the firſt appearance of a retreat, which was ſo precipitate that they were not able to overtake them.

The enemy continued at Elizabeth-town point until twelve o'clock at night, and then began to croſs their troops to Staten Iſland, by ſix this morning they had totally evacuated the point and removed their bridge. Major Lee fell in with their rear guard, but they were ſo covered by their works, that little or no injury could be done them. He made ſome refugees priſoners, and took ſome tories which they abandoned to expedite their retreat.

I have the pleaſure to inform your excellency, that the troops who were engaged, behaved with great coolneſs and intrepidity, and the whole of them diſcovered an impatience to be brought into action. The good order and diſcipline which they exhibited in all their movements do them the higheſt honour. The artillery under the command of lieutenant-colonel Forreſt was well ſerved. I have only to regret the loſs of captain-lieutenant Thompſon, who fell at the fide of his piece by a cannon ball.

It is impoſſible to fix with certainty the enemy's loſs, but as there was much cloſe firing, and our troops advantageouſly poſted, they muſt have ſuffered very conſiderably.

I herewith incloſe your excellency a return of our killed, wounded and miſſing, which I am happy to find is much leſs than I had reaſon to expect from the heavy fire they ſuſtained.

I am at a loſs to determine what was the object of the enemy's expedition: if it was to injure the troops under my command, or to penetrate further into the country, they were fruſtrated. If the deſtruction of this place, it was a diſgraceful one. I lament that our force was too ſmall to ſave the town from ruin. I wiſh every American could have been a ſpectator, they would have felt for the ſufferers, and joined to revenge the injury.

I cannot cloſe this letter without acknowledging the particular ſervices of lieutenant-colonel Barber, who acted as deputy-adjutant-general, and diſtinguiſhed himſelf by his activity in aſſiſting to make the neceſſary diſpoſitions.

I have the honour to be, &c.

N. GREENE, major-general.

There were a number of priſoners made, but as they went on to Morris I had no return of them.

His excellency general Waſhington.

RETURN of the killed, wounded, and miſſing, in the action of the 23d of June, 1780, at Springfield.

Artillery. Killed: 1 captain, 2 ſergeants. Wounded: 2 matroſſes.

Angell's regiment. Killed: 1 ſergeant, 5 rank and file. Wounded: 1 captain, 3 ſubs, 3 ſergeants, 25 rank and file. Miſſing: 3 rank and file.

Shreve's regiment. Killed: 2 rank and file. Wounded: 1 ſergeant, 2 rank and file. Miſſing: 2 rank and file.

Dayton's regiment. Killed: 2 rank and file. Wounded: 1 ſub, 6 rank and file. Miſſing: 4 rank and file.

Spencer's regiment. Wounded: 2 ſergeant.

Lee's detachment. Killed: 1 rank and file. Wounded: 4 rank and file.

Total. Killed: 2 captain, 3 ſergeants, 9 rank and file. Wounded: 1 captain, 4 ſubs, 5 ſergeants, 37 rank and file, 2 matroſſes. Miſſing: 9 rank and file.

The return of Davis's detachment I could not get, he having marched off the next morning after the action. The return of the militia I cannot get, they had none killed, but about twelve wounded.

(Signed) P. BARBER, Lt. Col.

Publiſhed by order of congreſs,

CHARLES THOMSON, ſecr.

ANNAPOLIS, July 7.

On Wedneſday laſt the general Aſſembly of this ſtate adjourned, the ſame to the firſt Monday in November, and the houſe of delegates to the third Monday in ſeptember next, after having paſſed the following laws:

1. An act to authoriſe the commiſſioners appointed by the act for the immediate ſupply of flour and other proviſions for the army, to hire or impreſs veſſels and carriages.

2. An act to procure ſalpetre.

3. An act for a new and ſpeedy enrollment of the militia.

4. An act for the relief of Zachariah Forreſt, collector of the tax for Saint Mary's county.

5. An act for the payment of certain certificates.

6. An act for the relief of Thomas Williams, collector of the aſſeſſment in Prince-George's county.

7. An act for the adjournment of Charles county court.

8. An act for ſinking the quota required by congreſs of this ſtate of the bills of credit emitted by congreſs.

9. An act to continue the acts of aſſembly therein mentioned.

10. An act to procure recruits to complete the battalions of this ſtate in the ſervice of the United States, and to raiſe an additional regiment, if neceſſary.

11. An act to revive actions and proceſs in the court of appeals, to enable any one judge to adjourn the ſaid court, and to direct the oath of the judges in caſe of appeals from the court of chancery.

12. An act for the relief of thoſe who have and may ſuffer by the Britiſh army.

13. An act for the appointment of ſeveral collectors in each county where neceſſary, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.

14. An act for the regulation of the ſtaple of tobacco.

15. An act concerning nonjurors.

16. An act to prevent frauds in commerce, and to direct the duty of naval officers.

17. An act to continue the act of aſſembly, entitled, An act to prohibit for a limited time the exportation of wheat, flour, rye, indian corn, rice, bread, beef, pork, bacon, live ſtock, peas, beans, oats, and other victual, and for other purpoſes.

18. An act for the relief of certain nonjurors.

19. An act to enable Conrad Theodore Wedertrandt to draw orders, as therein mentioned.

20. An act to direct the recording and to give effect to a deed made by Philip Read and Anne his wife, of Saint Mary's county, to George Medley.

21. An act to procure a ſupply of ſalt meat for the uſe of the army.

22. An act to encourage the raiſing a volunteer troop of light horſe in Baltimore-town and in each county of this ſtate.

23. An act, entitled, A ſupplement to the act to procure recruits to complete the battalions of

this state in the service of the United States, and to raise an additional regiment, if necessary.

24. An act to enable the treasurer of the western shore to draw and sell bills of exchange, and for an emission of bills of credit, if necessary.

25. An act to procure an extra supply of provisions of the bread kind, also waggons and horses, for the use of the continental army.

26. An act to expedite the raising an additional battalion of regulars.

27. A supplement to the act to procure an extra supply of provisions of the bread kind, also waggons and horses, for the use of the continental army.

28. An act relating to loans in specie, tenders for debts, and contracts in future, and the establishment of a bank for public purposes.

29. An act for the payment of the journal of accounts.

To the PEOPLE of MARYLAND.

FRIENDS, and COUNTRYMEN!

A FREE people, from whom the trust and powers of government are delegated to a representative council, for the better management of the public interests, have a right to be informed at all times, but more especially in great emergencies, of the true situation of their affairs. Duty, therefore, as well as inclination, prompts us to lay before you the exigencies and the danger of this, in common with our sister states, to disclose our wants, our resources, and the means of calling them forth in support of the justest cause and noblest ends a people can contend for. The enemy, convinced by fatal experience, that force and artifice alone will never subdue the stubborn spirit of liberty, have long depended on the failure of our public credit to accomplish their views of conquest: the rapid depreciation of our paper currency, principally owing to the not imposing taxes in due time, and somewhat adequate to the public demands, and the abilities of the people to pay, had given foundation to the opinion, that these states, from the want of money to support the war, would at length give up the contest, and bend to the galling yoke of Britain. The event, however, we trust, will discover this opinion to be as vain and delusive, as many others entertained by our inveterate foe. The congress has recommended to the states a plan for calling in their bills of credit by taxes or otherwise, which has been adopted by this and several other of the states. Taxes equally laid, quickly collected, and faithfully applied, are necessary to give efficacy to the plan, and to restore, and when restored, to preserve public credit. Experience has taught us the necessity of taxation: a free people, seeing that necessity, and the importance of victory, on which their liberty depends, needs no exhortation to submit, even with cheerfulness, to the heaviest taxes; reflect, that these will be but temporary, and the benefits resulting from them most extensive and permanent; if adequate, and timely exertions are made, the war probably may be speedily ended, and will not leave us incumbered with a load of debt, under which the present and future generations must otherwise inevitably labour: by timely and due exertions we shall avoid the evils inseparable from a great national debt. The taxes hitherto imposed cannot be complained of as very burthensome: our present debt, when compared with our probable resources in peace, is far from being alarming; a lingering war, however, besides consuming our inhabitants, wasting our resources, accumulating expence, will subject our country to the cruel and wanton devastations of an enemy, who never yet used even transient victories with moderation; what strong incentives to the most vigorous and spirited efforts are deducible from these reflections! Rise then into action with that ardor, which despising overcomes all difficulties, and which led you, destitute of money, of allies, of arms, and soldiers, to encounter one of the most powerful nations in Europe. Single, and unsupported, raw and undisciplined, you baffled for three successive years the repeated attacks of numerous and veteran bands. Shall we now, when strengthened by a mighty alliance, droop, and desert the field, to which honour, the strongest ties, the dearest interests of humanity, point, to which victory itself invites us? A warlike, potent, and magnanimous nation, has espoused our cause with all that warmth of friendship, and is determined to yield us powerful aid: a respectable land and naval force may be daily expected on our coast from France, ready to act under the orders of our patriotic general. How disgraceful would it be to this state, were it any ways accessary in laying that great, and good man, under the humiliating necessity of avowing to our allies an inability to undertake any enterprise of consequence against the common enemy, particularly, if that weakness should proceed not from the real liberty of this, and the other states, but from the supineness, the avarice, or want of spirit in their people! We have hitherto done our duty; the general has acknowledged our exertions, and we entreat you, by all that is dear to freemen, not to forfeit the reputation you have so justly acquired, but to set an example of fortitude, perseverance and disinterestedness; these virtues form the character of true republicans; beware, lest an inordinate love of riches should mark too strongly ours; remember, that you entered upon this war, not through choice, but necessity, not to acquire wealth, or power, but to preserve liberty, and property; remember, that your cause is righteous, that you had not recourse to arms, until the bayonet uplifted to your breasts, a discretionary surrender of all that is valuable to man, was demanded with menaces of hostile force, and with all the insolence of conscious power; remember too, that you have pledged to each other your lives, your fortunes, and your sacred honour, in defence of those rights, without the enjoyment of which, life is but misery, and government a curse.

The general has called upon us to complete our battalions, and for a reinforcement of 2205 militia to join him with all expedition. Considering the approach of harvest, and attentive to your ease and convenience, we have offered to raise an additional battalion, in lieu of the militia, and we have the satisfaction to inform you, that the general has approved the offer, on condition that this battalion be ready at the place of rendezvous by the last of this month at farthest. By the law printed for your information and with which we entreat your ready compliance, you will perceive that we have held out the most liberal an encouragement for recruits, upon principles of equality and justice. If from negligence, indifference, or the dread of danger and fatigue, motives too degrading to be imputed to freemen, or from any other cause, this battalion should not be raised in time, we have directed the militia to be called out in classes, to supply the place of regular troops; your duty, your interest, and no doubt your inclination, will impel you to second the views of your representatives; without your co-operation in vain may we make laws, or concert plans for the general cause; these must remain as dead letters, unless inspirited by your zeal and activity. We have the honour to represent men, who, sensible of the blessings of liberty, must know, that the continuance of them rests altogether on the successful issue of this war. You feel not, indeed, at present, those distresses, which our brethren, whose country is the immediate scene of action, are exposed to; their calamities, therefore, possibly may make a slighter impression on your minds. Contemplate, we beseech you, the ravages committed by the British forces on the plains of Jersey; behold the dwellings of the poor and rich in flames, or reduced to ashes; the fruits of a long and laborious industry swept instantly away as by a torrent; view the helpless infant, the aged parent, the tender virgin, victims to the savage fury, and unbridled lusts of an insolent soldiery; view these scenes of horror and dismay; rouse, and revenge these wrongs, for these we too in our turn shall feel, if we refuse our aid to drive these spoilers and invaders from our land; emulate the conduct of the brave militia of our sister states, the proof of courage and patriotism, which they have exhibited, you cannot but applaud, and therefore must wish to imitate, and if possible, surpass.

The prize we are contending for is inestimable; the blood of those heroes, which has been shed in this just and glorious cause, the inviolable ties of plighted faith, the necessity of conquering, gratitude to our illustrious general and to the brave men under his command, all conspiring, call aloud for our redoubled efforts. Our army is weak, and reinforced it must be, to act on the defensive or offensively, as circumstances may require; reinforcements proportionable to those demanded from this, are to be furnished by the other states. The fall of Charles-town, and the distresses of our brave friends in that quarter, have infused fresh vigour into the councils of America; let us, like the Romans of old, draw new resources and an increase of courage, even from defeats, and manifest to the world, that we are then most to be dreaded, when most depressed.

By order of the general assembly,

DAN. of St. THO. JENIFER, Pres. Sen.

JOSIAS BEALL, Spr. ho. del.

THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS REWARD.

RAN away the 3d of July, a Negro man named Jonathan Rawlings. A fellow named Peter, a carpenter by trade, a stout, well made man, about 28 years of age, 5 feet 9 inches high; had on, when he went away, a brown cloth coat, striped jacket and trowsers, a round hat with a small hole between the crown, &c.

A wench named Rachel, about 19 years of age, much pitted with the small pox; had on, when she went away, a blue camblet petty coat, and a linen wrapper.

Whoever secures said negroes in any gaol so that they may be had again, shall be entitled to receive the above reward, or in proportion for either, by applying to Mr. Isaac [illegible] Annapolis.

Charles county, April 25, 1780.

I HAVE in my custody, committed as a runaway, a negro man who calls himself Peter, and says he belongs to Mr. James [illegible] James river; he says he is about twenty-four years of age, he is a middle sized fellow, remarkably black, and speaks good English; had on, when delivered to me, a striped country cloth jacket and breeches, country linen shirt, one pair white yarn hose, and one pair brown coloured mixed yarn ditto, a pair of old shoes, and an old country cotton cap. His master is desired to pay charges and take him away.

BENJAMIN CAWOOD, [illegible]

Prince-George's county, May 16, 1780.

A PETITION will be offered to the next session of assembly, after this notice has been given eight weeks, for an act to alter the recording and to give effect from the date hereof to a deed executed in this county, by Matthew Hammelton and Margaret his wife, to John Hammelton, for a tract of land lying in the aforesaid county.

JOHN HAMMELTON.

ACCOUNT and pocket books, writing, wrapping, and boarded paper, lampblack, waters, sealing wax, and a variety of books and stationary too tedious to enumerate, or advertise, may be had of M. K. Goddard, at the printing-office in Baltimore-town, in exchange for clean linen and cotton rags, coarse or fine, old sails, cloth, and junk.——A large quantity of the above articles are now much wanted, at the paper-mill, near Elk-Ridge Landing, where as much as at the printing-office in Baltimore, the highest prices will be given.

If the mill above mentioned is supplied with such rags as have been usually thrown away, they will be immediately converted into good paper, and offered for sale at the printing-office in Baltimore, and Annapolis, at a much cheaper rate than any imported paper can possibly be sold.

Clean linen and cotton rags are also taken in, and the highest prices given, by Frederick Green.

WILLIAM PRICHARD,

BOOKSELLER and STATIONER, in Market-street, Baltimore,

BEGS leave to inform the friends of literature and science in Annapolis, that he is again returned to Baltimore, where he has opened a commodious book store, and has for sale books in various bindings, and in most modern languages; where gentlemen of the bar, the faculty, or the gown, may furnish themselves upon as reasonable terms as the times will admit of. He hopes by an assiduous attention to the improvement of his collection, with such additions as the unsettled state of the times will permit, and by reasonable profits, to prove himself not unworthy the favourable countenance of the public in general and his friends in particular, as he flatters himself his conduct in his line of business will not fail of giving satisfaction to those who may honour him with any commands in either the bookselling or stationary branch. Their most respectfully obedient humble servant,

WILLIAM PRICHARD.

N. B. Books given in exchange for books or ready money for any gentleman's library.

Annapolis, June 15, 1780.

FOR SALE,

A QUANTITY of very old BARBADOES and MADEIRA SPIRIT, by

JAMES WILLIAMS.

LAWS of MARYLAND, made at March session, 1780, may be had at the printing-office.

Advertisements omitted will be inserted next week.

ANNAPOLIS: Printed by FREDERICK and SAMUEL GREEN, at the POST-OFFICE in Church-Street.